Dear Jim,

12/16/77

The meeting with the TV group last night ran until after midnight, about 6 hours.

I think that as a result they are going to be making some changes in what they planned.

I'd never met Osterland before ~~and~~ or his lawyer associate, Mark Hollow (phon). A co-producer is British, Tony Summers of BBC. They indicate he is the farout one. ~~[illegible]~~ It was a pleasant evening of which I suppose you'll hear from Kathy.

They are coming up again this weekend and then later they want to come with a camera crew. They liked my lines, as they called what I said, as well as the direction I sought to point them into. The lawyer in particular to begin with.

If as they say they will be syndicated into 144 TV markets then it is worth the time. I'm sure I've already cut out muchof the crap that all in their positions pick up. Can't ~~[illegible]~~ avoid I guess.

Lil and Mark hit it off very well. He wants her critical judgement of the script they wind up with. I'm sure it will not be the one they have.

Osterland seems to be a decent and properly concerned man. His account of the end of the Kimsey project with Zebra is probably honest- he ended it, not Walter. He explained why, that he learned from official non-spook friends that Kimsey was what I said he was, not what Walter believed from the McDonald version.

If it seems appropriate I will suggest that he also engage~~d~~ you (he has not engaged me) to go over the final script. Do not do it without compensation if they ask.

My solution for him to the anticipated legal problems was to eliminate them at the outset because he would have more than he could use anyway, so why use what might lead to even a frivolous suit. They liked that simple approach.

Best,